GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1431
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2015
Arrest of Poachers
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether international poaching syndicate members were arrested in Delhi by STF(MP) and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the quantum of hides, skulls, bones and nails seized from the arrested poachers, species- wise;
(c) the steps taken by the Government to stop this kind of illegal activity, especially from reserved animal sanctuary; and
(d) whether the Government has arrested any forest official involved in this regard and if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) and (b) The Forest Department of Madhya Pradesh, arrested one international poaching syndicate member, viz, Mr. Jaiy Tamag alias, Pasang Lima, s/o Konchak Tamang, currently residing at H-19, New Aruna Nagar, Majnu ka tila, New Delhi with native place at Tibet. However, no article was seized from the arrested person as he is reported to be a mediator of poachers and traders.

(c) The following are the important steps taken by the Government for prevention of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife in the country:

i. Forest and wildlife protection is organized by the States through the State Forest Departments.
ii. Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

iii. In addition to provision of stringent punishment for the offenders, the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that is used for committing wildlife offence(s).

iv. Protected Areas, viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.

v. Financial and technical assistance is provided to the State/ Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats", 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection to wildlife, and improvement of its habitat.

vi. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.

vii. The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up to ensure co-ordination among various officers and State Governments in connection with the enforcement of law for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its products.

viii. State Tiger Strike Force and its five regional units have been created by the State of Madhya Pradesh for prompt investigation and prosecution of offenders in the wildlife cases.

ix. Strict vigil is maintained by the officials of State Departments of Forests and Wildlife along with providing training and software in modern techniques including CDR analysis to improve protection.

(d) No, Sir. No forest official has been arrested in this regard. State-wise details of forest officials arrested in such cases are not compiled at the level of the Ministry.

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